

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for screening for melanoma using immunohistochemistry to determine whether microphthalmia (Mi) is expressed which comprises:
 - (a) contacting *in vitro* a biological specimen containing malignant cells with an antibody that selectively binds to human microphthalmia (Mi); and
 - (b) determining whether Mi is being expressed in the specimen by the binding of the antibody to Mi, wherein the expression of Mi in a malignant cell is indicative of melanoma.
- 2-3. (CANCELLED)
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the biological specimen consists of malignant cells.
- 5-12. (CANCELLED)
13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The method of claim 13, wherein the antibody~~ A method for screening for melanoma using immunohistochemistry to determine whether microphthalmia (Mi) is expressed which comprises:

- (a) contacting in vitro a biological specimen containing malignant cells with a monoclonal antibody that selectively binds to an epitope in the N-terminus Taq-Sac fragment of human Mi; and
 - (b) determining whether Mi is being expressed in the specimen by the binding of the antibody to Mi, wherein the expression of Mi in a malignant cell is indicative of melanoma.
15. (CANCELLED)
16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the biological sample is on a slide.
17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the antibody is used to determine where in the malignant cell the Mi is expressed.
18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for screening for melanoma using immunohistochemistry to determine whether microphthalmia (Mi) is expressed which comprises:
- (a) contacting *in vitro* a biological specimen containing malignant cells with an antibody raised against peptides comprising regions generated using a region of human microphthalmia (Mi) unique to human Mi that selectively binds human Mi; and
 - (b) determining whether Mi is being expressed in the specimen by the binding of the antibody to Mi, wherein the expression of Mi in a malignant cell is indicative of melanoma.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 18, wherein the biological specimen consists of malignant cells.
20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 18, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 20, wherein the antibody is generated using an epitope in the N-terminus Taq-Sac fragment of human Mi.
22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 18, wherein the biological sample is on a slide.
23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 18, wherein the antibody is used to determine where in the malignant cell the Mi is expressed.